

31st Fighter Wing: The U.S. Air Force's fighter wing south of the Alps.

# THE VIGILEER

Vol. 50, No. 2

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Aviano Air Base, Italy

## FROM THE TOP

Gen. Robert Foglesong  
U.S. Air Forces in Europe



## Service foundation of MLK Jr.'s dream

By Gen. Robert H. "Doc"

Foglesong

Commander, U.S. Air Forces in Europe

Americans all over the world will pause Jan. 19 to reflect upon and honor the commitment and legacy of Civil Rights leader Dr. Martin Luther King Jr. The national holiday honors the steadfast efforts of this great American who relentlessly fought for the dream of human dignity and equality — regardless of a person's race,

See MLK, page 9

## Good to know

**Surety Tidbits - 16 Days to U.S.**  
*Air Forces in Europe Inspector General Surety Inspections*

**One chance to make a positive first impression.** While some functional areas are directly related with surety inspections, we all have an immediate effect on the IG team's first impression. Keep our base clean, look and act like the true professional you are. This is our "one chance to make a positive first impression."

**Mind the No-Lone Zone.** The No-Lone Zone is an area where the two-person concept must be enforced because it contains certified weapons or critical components. A Sole Vouching Authority grants entry and assumes responsibility for ensuring individuals entering a No-Lone Zone are under surveillance of a qualified TPC team.



Ken Gooden

## Fully engulfed

An Aviano firefighter prepares to spray water from a fire-hose on the burning Burger King in Area One Jan. 12. The fire started a little after noon and was extinguished by 4 p.m. after more than 30 firefighters responded to the fire. No injuries were reported and damage was estimated to be \$1 million. The Burger King is owned by Army Air Force Exchange Services. The cause of the fire is under investigation.

## America's airmen get the job done with courage, commitment

By Tech. Sgt. Mona Ferrell  
USAFE News Service

People, aircraft and a commitment to core values have kept U.S. Air Forces in Europe's top leader in the Air Force more than 31 years, and these same attributes will continue to be the bedrock of the military's success, Gen. Robert H. "Doc" Foglesong, USAFE commander, said recently.

The integrity, commitment to excellence and service before self of America's

airmen have been inspirational, he said.

"I came in the Air Force 31 years ago, and had every intention of getting out after four years," said the general, who holds a doctorate in chemical engineering. "I thought it would be pretty exciting to be in the chemical engineering business. But I fell in love with 480 knots and wearing G-suits, and I just never got over it."

"I also enjoy talking with our airmen, and I've found that they're incredible,"

See Year in review, page 4

# 31st CES evaluated for Air Force Curtin Award

By Capt. Kevin Osborne

31st Civil Engineer Squadron

The 31st Civil Engineer Squadron will undergo an evaluation Tuesday for the Air Force Outstanding Small Unit Civil Engineer Squadron.

They are one of three finalists in the Air Force to be in the running for this coveted award.

The Curtin Award is presented annually in recognition of the most outstanding Air Force civil engineer unit in large and small categories.

After already being recognized as the top small unit civil engineer squadron in U.S. Air Forces in Europe, the 31st CES now competes against Moody and Cannon AFBs as Air Force finalists selected from all major command nominees.

"This has been an incredible year of

accomplishments for the Air Force and the civil engineer communities as we once again supported the beddown and flying operations of deployed combat forces and critical home station programs," stated Lt. Col. Timothy Green, 31st CES commander. "To be selected as a finalist this year is humbling and a tremendous tribute to the men and women in the squadron and our partners here at Aviano and deployed. We look forward to showing-off our team and team mates during the short evaluation."

The engineers are evaluated in six areas; expeditionary engineering, installation engineering, environmental leadership, housing excellence, emergency services, and additional exemplary achievements.

During fiscal year 2003 31st CES deployed 102 personnel in 13 teams to 10 sites in support of worldwide operations,

including Operations Enduring Freedom and Iraqi Freedom. Squadron members built and operated bases in virtually every country supporting these operations. 31st CES had a strategic impact with the beddown of over 2,000 soldiers from the 173rd Airborne Brigade and their subsequent insertion into Iraq.

Aviano CES is also graded on day-to-day Geographically Separated Unit support of three main and 19 small units. Support varies to each GSU, but every flight in the squadron directly supports these sites as well as Aviano.

Senior Airman Jeff Vorwald, a structural craftsman, reflects, "The assignment is Aviano, but in three years I have deployed to Oman and Cyprus and performed work here and at Ghedi, Istres, Camp Darby. I am proud of the squadron and realize CE really does make it happen."



Courtesy Photo

## First of the year

Elijahna Burns, the first baby born in 2004 at Aviano, was born to Sayword and Michael Burns at 2:11 a.m. Jan. 2. AAFES donated diapers, clothes and a blanket. The 31st Medical Squadron gave them an AAFES gift card.

## Wing commander talks to spouses

By 2nd Lt. Lea Ann Chambers

31st Fighter Wing Public Affairs

Brig. Gen. Mike Worden held a town hall meeting for the spouses of deployed Aviano members at 6:30 p.m. Wednesday.

General Worden spoke and answered questions about Aviano deployments, discussing topics from morale calls to travel stateside.

"This is a pretty hard time for Aviano," said General Worden. "This is the first time we've had over 700 of our people deployed over the holidays."

A video was shown of how deployed airmen live down range including where they eat, sleep and work out. Representatives from Aviano's base chapel, family support center, legal office, family advocacy and the 31st Communications Squadron were also on hand to talk about services and support they provide spouses of deployed military members.

"It's nice to know we're not alone and there are so many caring people available to help the spouses," said Stephanie Lopez, Aviano spouse and town hall attendee.

Spouses that brought a copy of their airman's orders were able to sign up for services such as free childcare for spouses of deployed airmen and free oil and safety checks for their vehicles. They were also introduced to the Air Force Aid Society, an organization that assists those in need in a variety of ways.

Base officials also briefed spouses on U.S. Air Forces in Europe initiatives such as Combat Care, Project CHEER, Combat Touch and Combat Education. These initiatives provide spouses not only with activities to get involved in, but provide essential services needed by spouses parenting on their own without the support of a deployed member.

Spouses were invited to speak with deployment experts on an individual basis as well.

"We want [spouses] to stay connected to their spouse and to the base," said General Worden. "We're trying to figure out how we're doing with that, and what kind of services [spouses] need."



### Aviano Air Base Editorial Staff

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The public affairs staff reserves the right to edit all material in accordance with the Associated Press Stylebook.

# More airmen may get chance to live off base

By Staff Sgt. C. Todd Lopez

*Air Force Print News*

A change in how the Air Force figures unaccompanied housing requirements will call for fewer dormitory rooms — meaning more airmen could move off base in the future.

Under the new policy, which took effect Jan. 1, the Air Force must provide dormitory housing for unaccompanied E-1s through E-3s and E-4s with less than three years of service. Previously, the Air Force maintained dorm spaces for all unaccompanied airmen below E-5.

The policy change is designed to make the number of dorm rooms the Air Force must have available more predictable, said Chief Master Sgt. of the Air Force Gerald Murray.

"It is easier to base a construction

policy on years in service as opposed to rank within the service," Chief Murray said. "We feel this construction policy will give us the best predictability."

Basing dorm room requirements on how many airmen are a certain rank is like "hitting a moving target," Chief Murray said. The problem lies in the wide range of time it takes for senior airmen to graduate to the noncommissioned officer grade.

"It currently takes an average of 4.6 years until our airmen sew on staff sergeant, but it used to be as high as six years," Chief Murray said. "Some take as much as seven or eight years time."

Calculating how long it takes an airman to reach E-4 is not nearly as unpredictable. Most airmen reach E-4 within four years — some in as little as two with a below-the-

zone promotion. That combination of rank, time in service and predictability makes the three-year senior airman the ideal cutoff point, Chief Murray said.

"Our standard will be that we will provide housing for airmen with up to three years service, and at that point, if dormitories are not available, our policy will provide other options for them," Chief Murray said.

Basic Allowance for Housing rates are now set high enough that a senior airman should be able to obtain adequate housing downtown, without paying a lot of out-of-pocket costs, Chief Murray said. That trend will continue, and by 2005, BAH is expected to pay 100 percent of off-base housing costs.

"Today we believe that our young airmen have the pay and allowance to go into the downtown areas and afford good-quality homes," Chief Murray said.

## Year in review, from page 1

said the general, who is a firm believer in keeping grounded and remembering where he came from. "They do an unbelievable job for us, and they hardly ask for anything. So I love people who put service before self. As a result of that, I've stuck around this great institution of ours for a long time now and I've had a great time doing it."

His love for America's airmen became even more prevalent after the 2001 terrorist attacks.

"I was in the Pentagon on Sept. 11, 2001, and like everyone else, my life changed forever ... this was, in a sense, my generation's Pearl Harbor," the general said. "I couldn't be more proud of how the U.S. Air Force responded over the last couple of years. When the President issued his call for arms, without any doubts, our Air Force stepped forward with great strength. I'm incredibly proud of the initiatives and dedication (of our Air Force)."

This dedication to excellence is also shared within USAFE, said General Foglesong.

"Our goal in USAFE is to be a part of this incredible team that we call the United States Air Force," he said. "We have contributed over here in the same way that every other major command has — we've provided tanker support, tactical airlift support and we've provided fighter support — our people have responded all across the world this past year. We're ready, trained and we're motivated to go do the job our president has asked us to do. My perspective up to this point is one of great pride as to how everyone has responded, and continues to on a day-to-day basis."

When looking ahead to the New Year, it's important that USAFE's airmen remember the command's vision, mission and goals, the general said.

"I think if you'll look at our vision, it probably says it all," General Foglesong said. "We want to be leading the world's most respected expeditionary all-purpose Air Force. That's a mouthful, but all we want to do is be in front of what the Chief of Staff and Secretary of the Air Force ask. When they ask us to respond in some way, we would like to be on the leading-edge for them. That's our vision."

"Our mission is pretty simple," the general continued. I've eliminated all of the acronyms, so that everybody in USAFE — Airman Foglesong up to General Foglesong and everybody in between — understands what our mission is. We all need to know that our mission is to be ready to fight; postured to respond; and provide incredible services to these incredible people we have over here.

"We have now developed what I affectionately refer to as

*"We want to be leading the world's most respected expeditionary all-purpose Air Force. That's a mouthful, but all we want to do is be in front of what the Chief of Staff and Secretary of the Air Force ask. When they ask us to respond in some way, we would like to be on the leading-edge for them. That's our vision."*

— Gen. Robert H. "Doc" Foglesong  
U.S. Air Forces in Europe commander

Combat and Special Interest Programs that will allow us to operationalize that mission," he said. "There are 12 special programs and initiatives that we've put together to work on the morale of our people, readiness for our people and services for our people — they are all initiatives that commanders would like to have available. They're the right things to do, and it allows us to put some discipline and focus as to how we're going to dedicate our resources over the next year."

Once such program is Combat Fitness, which fits right in line with the Chief of Staff of the Air Force's Fit to Fight Program.

"This program ties all of the different initiatives for fitness under one umbrella, so it can be engineered and advocated in the right way," said the general.

Another program called Combat Flightline is dedicated to enhancing the readiness of not only the most important aspect of our flightline — our people — but also our equipment, General Foglesong said.

"I could go on and tell you about all of the programs, but you get a sense of what I'm talking about. In order to operationalize that mission I referred to earlier — being ready to fight; postured to respond; and providing great services — we've now identified these programs as the most logical way to get there," he said. "I would expect us to continue down the path of working to enhance these programs. And I'm very sure if we're called on, we'll be ready to do whatever the President asks us to do."

As for the future ...

"One of these days I'll be sitting in a rocking chair on a porch at our ranch in Red Lodge, Montana, and I'll still be telling people that we're the world's most inspirational Air Force to our friends, and we're the world's most intimidating Air Force to our enemies," General Foglesong said. "We have people with incredible courage. We have people who lay their lives on the line for this great nation of ours every day."



# Logo authorized on jacket

By Staff Sgt. Melanie Streeter

Air Force Print News

WASHINGTON — Air Force Uniform Board members have introduced a new addition to the lightweight blue jacket.

"The Air Force chief of staff approved adding the Air Force logo to the existing lightweight blue jacket," said Senior Master Sgt. Jacqueline Dean of the Air Force Uniform Board.

All told, 300 jackets will be distributed Air Force-wide for wear testing, Sergeant Dean said. Board members are targeting Maxwell Air Force Base, Ala., as a distribution point because of its high number of temporary duty officers and enlisted airmen.

"Because the TDY members come from so many bases throughout the Air Force, giving them out at Maxwell allows us to reach a large audience in a short amount of time," Sergeant Dean said.

Airmen receiving the jackets will wear test them and give feedback to the uniform board about fraying or other problems with the embroidery, Sergeant Dean said.

Anyone not issued an embroidered jacket can have the logo applied on their jacket by a local embroidery shop using certain guidelines, Sergeant Dean said.

The symbol is to fit within a two-inch square. There is a one-fourth inch space between the symbol's lowest point and the "U.S. AIR FORCE" type.

The "U.S. AIR FORCE" type is to be one-fourth of an inch high, 3.5 inches long, in all capital Arial font, 24 point.

The symbol is to be embroidered on the upper left chest. The dot in the center of the symbol is centered vertically between the shoulder seam and where the underarm side seam joins the armhole sleeve, and centered horizontally between the zipper and the sleeve armhole seam.

Rank on the jacket continues to be worn as normal, Sergeant Dean said.

# Tips help those on PRP

## PRP Tip One:

The Base PRP Monitors are:

Primary: Staff Sgt. Quincy Black

Alternate: Tech. Sgt. Julie McQueen

The Medical Group PRP Monitors are:

Primary: Staff Sgt. Natasha Davis

Alternate: Staff Sgt. Yolanda Walker

## PRP Tip Two:

The two main references that cover the PRP are

1. DOD 5210.42R, dated Jan. 8, 2001

2. AFI 36-2104, Personnel Reliability Program, May 29, 2003 and USAFE Sup 1, dated Oct 7, 2003

## PRP Tip Three:

The three types of PRP decertifications and their duration are Suspension – 30 days

Temporary decertification – Initially 180 days, extended in 30 day increments not to exceed a total of 270 days

Decertification/Disqualification – permanent

## PRP Tip Four:

Those seen in a civilian emergency room or an off base medical facility are required to follow-up with their primary care manager within 24-48 hours. For questions, members can contact their commanding officer, PRP monitor or the MDG PRP monitors

## PRP Tip Five:

The only over-the-counter medications authorized for use are listed in a memo from the HQ/USAF Surgeon General. If the medication is not listed or the member has had problems with a medication, the member may not self-medicate.

Several base facilities have signs posted with the approved medications. Monitors have cards for those on PRP.

# Hail to the chiefs

Senior Master Sgt. Anthony McKee watches as Senior Master Sgt. Allan Drage lights candles as a part of the induction ceremony for new additions to Aviano's chief master sergeants Jan. 9 at the Bella Vista Club.



Airman Desiree Hayden

# RESCON CORNER

## Major Vehicle

	DUIs	Accidents
Week	0	2
28 days	4	3
Year	4	

0 : Injuries from accidents this week

There were no DUIs or major vehicle accidents with injuries last weekend. Aviano personnel have caused three vehicle accidents with injuries, and four DUIs in the last 28 days. The wing will remain in RESCON Charlie, with the following measures in effect:

- Local establishments, whose primary business is serving alcohol, that are determined to be a contributor to the DUI incident will be placed off limits. The C'e Chi C'ha Pub in Porcia is off limits until Tuesday.

- Causer of MVA/I (or supervisor of causer) will prepare a MISHAP report and brief the incident.

- Squadron/flight recall after each DUI on the weekend day after a DUI; squadron/flight telephonic recall for all causal MVA/Is.

- Alcohol consumption at all unit locations is prohibited; on-base alcohol purchases are restricted.

- Several speed traps and checkpoints will be in force.

# Sortie Board

	31st FW		510th FS		555th FS	
	Hours	Sorties	Hours	Sorties	Hours	Sorties
Goal	313.4	208	166.2	109	147.2	99
Ahead/						
Behind	+441.0	+21	+404.8	+5	+36.2	+16

## Enlisted family scholarship program

The Aviano Top Three Association is offering \$500 in scholarships each school term to active-duty members and spouses in the grades of E-1 to E-6 to offset the cost of book purchases. Applicants must be either active duty Air Force or married to an active-duty member in grades E-6 or below, enrolled in a college course during the scholarship award period, and complete a scholarship submission form including an attached written essay. Scholarship submissions are accepted until Jan. 23 — winners announced Jan. 30. For more information or electronic versions of the application form, contact Senior Master Sgt. Russell Steger at Ext. 7341 or e-mail at russell.steger@aviano.af.mil.

## Overseas housing survey

The annual overseas housing allowance survey is available on-line to allow more personnel to participate. The Per Diem committee uses the prior year's expense data to update the current year housing entitlements. The survey is located at <https://www.drc-instantaccess.com/g3051/htm/default.htm?btnBack=Back>

## Boeing opening

Boeing Aerospace Operations is seeking candidates for potential academic and training device instruction supporting the F-16 Mission Training Center at Spangdahlem AB, Germany. Instructor candidates must have previous experience within last seven years in A/OA-10, F-4, F-15, F-16, F-18, F-111, F-117 or comparable aircraft as an instructor, a minimum of 500 hours in one of the above aircraft, and F-

16C Block 50 with Suppression of Enemy Air Defense (SEAD) operations experience. Interested participants must submit their resume to: Boeing Aerospace Operations, 2901-B South Douglas Blvd R7-08, Midwest City, OK 73130, send a fax to 405-739-1099 or e-mail: ronald.burkholder@boeing.com

## GPC e-mail information warning

Government Purchase Card holders are warned if they receive an e-mail requesting information on Government Purchase Card information, do not respond to the e-mail instead, forward a copy to [help@usbank.com](mailto:help@usbank.com).

## Construction notice

Contractors are expanding the existing parking lot in front of the AMC Terminal and Hangar 3 to install drainage and parking lot lighting systems.

## Dental assistant training

The American Red Cross and the 31st Dental Squadron are offering a six-month dental assistant training volunteer program. For more information, call the Red Cross at Ext. 5576.

## Pharmacy extended hours

The pharmacy is operating on extended hours from 4:30 to 6 p.m. For more information, call Ext. 5333.

## Loan center

The Aviano Family Support Center loan center has items for people to use while their household goods are shipped such as: toasters, fans, irons, ironing boards, pots, pans, cutlery, dish packs and much more.

For more information, call Ext. 5663.

## Family readiness initiative

The Aviano Family Support Center has the capability for parents to record themselves reading children's books on video, CD and DVD. For more information call Ext. 5663.

## Coupon collection

Aviano members can bring their unwanted coupons to the Aviano Family Support Center from 7 a.m. to 7 p.m. Mondays through Fridays and exchange them for needed ones. For more information, call Ext. 5407.

## Breastfeeding basics class

Breastfeeding basics class is 1 to 2 p.m., Tuesdays at the Sacile clinic. For more information, call Ext. 5863.

## Customer service handbook

The 31st Logistics Readiness Squadron developed a customer handbook which answers many common questions, explains basic codes and more. For more information, call Ext. 7758 or stop in Bldg. 10295.

## Construction notice

Ongoing construction in front of the commissary is planned into the spring of 2004. Contractors are installing more effective and permanent force protection measures. Expect one-way traffic on the road directly in front of the BX/ commissary during this time period. Pedestrian access to and from the BX/ commissary will be provided at multiple points across the construction zone.

## Dress for success for women

Women, dress for success: find out what it takes to dress for success in a new workshop — in collaboration with the Aviano Base Exchange — from 9 to 11 a.m. Wednesday at the Base Exchange. Topics will include coordinating colors, style and accessories.

## Basic investing class

Basic investing for first time investors is 2 to 4 p.m. Thursday to define basic savings options such as CDs, mutual funds, and stock options to provide the first time investors with the knowledge and tools to research savings and investing options while outlining the investor's "risk personality." For more information, call Ext. 5407.

## Job application training

A workshop from 10 a.m. to noon Jan. 23 at the family support center covers electronic resume application process using RESUMIX, electronic vacancy announcements, self-nomination and civilian announcement notification system. For more information, call Ext. 5407.

# Reel Times

## Today – 5 p.m. "The Haunted Mansion" Rated PG

Jim and his family are stranded along with 999 creepy ghosts. Starring: Eddie Murphy and Jennifer Tilly

## Today – 8 p.m. "Scary Movie 3" Rated PG-13

Cindy learns that she is "The One" and helps the President prevent an alien invasion. Starring: Anna Faris and Charlie Sheen

## Saturday – 2 p.m. "The Haunted Mansion" Rated PG

## Saturday – 7 p.m. "Mystic River" Rated R

Jimmy, Dave and Sean are reunited after a murder of Jimmy's 19-year-old daughter. Starring: Sean Penn and Kevin Bacon

## Sunday – 1 and 4 p.m. "Brother Bear" Rated PG

Kenia attempts to avenge his brother's death and he's transformed into a bear. Starring: Joaquin Phoenix and Jeremy Suarez

## Sunday – 7 p.m. "Scary Movie 3" Rated PG-13

## Monday, Tuesday – Closed

## Wednesday – 7 p.m. "The Haunted Mansion" Rated PG

## Thursday – 11:30 a.m. "The Haunted Mansion" Rated PG

## Thursday – 7 p.m. "Mystic River" Rated R

## Jan. 23 – 5 p.m. "Elf" Rated PG

An elf wreaks havoc in the elf community due to his size. Starring: James Caan and Will Ferrell

## Jan. 23 – 8 p.m. "The Last Samurai" Rated R

A 19th-century American military officer travels to Japan to organize their troops. Starring: Tom Cruise and Ken Watanabe

# Air Force core values not cliché

By Col. Brian E. Kistner  
376th Expeditionary Mission  
Support Group commander

Most of us encounter situations in life we do not always agree with. Positive results can stem from how we respond to these situations. All of us in the Armed Forces have a sacred duty to adhere to the highest standards of military conduct. We have a wide range of choices; from turning a blind eye and doing nothing to confronting situations head on and ensuring we adhere to standards.

Whatever the case, rules and standards must be adhered to at all costs. They form the backbone for our acceptable way of life. Just about everywhere you look, there are rules and standards to be followed to effectively meet an end.

In the military, and the Air Force in particular, without standards we become just another segment of society versus the most trusted segment of society.

Without our high standards, we would, not be able to prosecute the nation's wars.

To help avoid confusion, the Air Force adopted three core values that spell out what we are all about: integrity first, excellence in all we do and service before self. These values are not cliché; they are the basic common values that enable people in the United States Air Force to perform the mission.

Of these values, integrity must be first, for without integrity we have nothing. We must always strive to do the right things for the right reasons. We must all know we can trust the person to the right and to the left of us to be forthright and to watch our back in a fight.

Our countrymen have put a great deal of faith in us to take the moral high ground when defending our country.

As an armed force, Americans require much from us and we must be prepared to deliver. We have to give our personal best and be cognizant of how we conduct ourselves.

Adherence to standards does not require a super human effort that does not allow for mistakes. Rather, adherence requires an honest straightforward approach and the best effort we can put forward.

Doing the right things for the right reasons means simply, when presented with a tough decision, confronting the situation head on and doing what is right even when it is uncomfortable.

When faced with misbehavior by a subordinate, for example, it might be easier to turn a blind eye and do nothing vs. administering the tough justice our profession requires.

When the chips are down, people will fail to do what is right if we do not hold them to this same standard in performing their daily duties. When we fail to do the right thing, the repercussions are far reaching because in the profession of arms we all potentially may be faced with life and death decisions.

If we allow complacency and inaction to erode the fabric of our military through the lack of adherence to standards and our core values, then we threaten the very existence of the institution we hold so dear.

Standards and core values aren't cliché. They are what set us apart from the rest of society and what make us the best most trusted air and space force in the world. (AFPN)

## DOD resumes anthrax shots

By Gerry J. Gilmore  
American Forces Press Service

A federal judge ruled Jan. 7 that the Defense Department could again legally administer anthrax immunizations to servicemembers.

Military commanders "should immediately resume the anthrax vaccination program," wrote Dr. David S.C. Chu, DOD personnel chief, in a department-wide memorandum.

The department's anthrax vaccine immunization program had been suspended since Dec. 23, after an injunction granted the previous day by the U.S. District Court for the District of Columbia.

The department "remains convinced that the AVIP complies with all legal requirements, and there is now no judicial restraint" on administration of the vaccine, Dr. Chu wrote.

Defense Secretary Donald H. Rumsfeld and Joint Chiefs of Staff Chairman Air Force Gen. Richard B. Myers maintain the vaccine is safe and necessary for U.S. servicemembers deployed in the war against terrorism where enemies may employ biological, chemical or nuclear weapons.

Both Secretary Rumsfeld and General Myers have received anthrax shots.

For more information call Ext. 5000. (AFPN)

### MLK, from page 1

gender, faith or skin color.

Although Dr. King's dream of a vibrant multiracial nation united in peace and reconciliation was targeted for our country, he inspired nonviolent liberation movements around the world. On this holiday, we commemorate a man of action — a man who brought his courage. Dr. King put his life on the line for freedom and justice every day and ultimately paid the highest price to make democracy a reality for all.

The catapult for his dream was community service. His personally held belief that "everybody can be great, because everybody can serve," still holds true, especially today. This year's theme is "Remember! Celebrate! Act! A Day On ... Not A Day Off." I encourage you to use the Martin Luther King Jr. holiday as an opportunity to make a difference in your community. Be it interacting with your host-nation neighbors or mentoring the child of a fellow airman who's deployed down range, make it your personal commitment to serve humanity with the great strength that empowered Dr. King's victories.

As members of an Air Force that recognizes the strength of its diversity, we also share a common bond — as people we are all equal. Dr. King's life exemplified our core value of "service before self," and recalling his work through community involvement lays firmly another stone on the path toward his dream.

## Airmen Against Drunk Driving Volunteer of the Month

### Senior Airman Elizabeth Fines

**Unit:** 31st Maintenance Operations Squadron

**Duty Title:** Deficiency Analyst

**Time in Service:** 3 years

**Hometown:** Jamestown, N.C.

**How long have you been volunteering for AADD?** One year, 5 months on the committee as secretary.

**Why do you volunteer for AADD?** Aviano has a big DUI problem, especially with younger Airman, and I wanted to help to try and make a difference.

**What is the best part of working for AADD?** Getting to know the other volunteers, and their reasons behind volunteering. Everyone is different and they each have their own unique reason for lending a hand.

**What is the biggest benefit of working for AADD?** Being able to speak to the brand new Airman coming through FTAC, I love being able to tell them about AADD and what we stand for, and getting them interested and involved in the program. This is also the most unique aspect.



# Mission shows AF, America's spirit

By Capt. Nicholas J. Sabula

31st Fighter Wing Public Affairs

When I was notified about my Air Expeditionary Force Silver deployment in October, I knew I would be spending the holiday season, my birthday and promotion away from my wife, and I miss sharing these cherished times with her. What I didn't know then was that I would have an opportunity to do something fulfilling we can both look back on proudly for years to come.

Helping people is a great feeling, but helping a country in need is something I never expected to be involved with before taking part in a historic humanitarian operation in Iran Dec. 28-30. Not only did the operation mark the first time American military aircraft have landed there in more than a dozen years, it gave me the chance to be one of the first military members since then to interact with the Iranian people and see their reactions to Americans bringing relief to their country.

Imagine looking at a mid-sized city, slightly larger than Santa Fe, N.M., and suddenly seeing it resemble a desolate New Mexico desert a moment later. This gives you some idea of the devastation caused by a 6.6 Richter scale earthquake that flattened the Iranian city of Bam Dec. 26.

Almost halfway through my deployment to the Combined Air Operations Center, I was awakened in my tent and told I would

soon be on a C-130 bound for Iran.

As part of my job here, I track media events throughout our area of responsibility, but had no idea I would soon be thrust into a country that last had ties to the U.S. in 1979. My family would later learn I was there by watching the news.

Bringing in to the country more than 300,000 pounds of humanitarian relief supplies, medical teams and equipment on 11 aircraft certainly was an unknown, since we have had no diplomatic ties to Iran in such a long time. But, like so many other nations flying in relief, America's generosity was welcomed too.

As we arrived at Kerman International Airport in the cold of the night of Dec. 28, we were greeted with suspicion, which quickly became collaboration and warmth. Working side-by-side, Americans and Iranians unloaded the plane.

This would be standard procedure for our other planes arriving: Iranians working hard to offload supplies with visibly friendly interaction between the two countries' citizens.

Before we knew it, they brought a tray with cups and began serving coffee on the ramp where our C-130 was parked. Then the Iranians asked to pose for pictures with our American crew. Handshakes increased and smiles grew.

When an Iranian C-130 parked next to our aircraft, their crew came over to meet ours. Loadmasters, speaking in broken English,

asked to meet with our loadmasters. Iranian pilots talked with our pilots. Several of them mentioned that family members had flown in our Air Force pilot programs during the 1970s and talked of their good memories of Americans.

As we brought in several aircraft carrying American medical teams and supplies, we were given the chance to act as American goodwill ambassadors, meeting with hundreds of people, taking dozens of photos with people who thanked us for coming to Iran.

I greeted several hundred Iranians, their English ranging from limited to excellent. Those who couldn't speak English were resigned to using nonverbal communication. Most just wanted to say "thank you" for America's help in any way they could.

I'll never forget the look on one woman's face as I walked through the airport. She sat quietly as I walked past. Then she saw the nametape on my desert camouflage uniform.

"U.S. Air Force in Iran! I can't believe it," she shouted quite happily. It is that woman I feel best represents the attitude of Iranians I encountered.

This humanitarian mission has proven to me the great responsibility we as Americans bear when there is a crisis. But it is that responsibility which makes us Americans.

Regardless of what happens, it is this humanitarian message that I will remember about this journey, and I feel the Iranian people will too. (AFPN)

## What can manpower do for you?

LT explains organizational office role in resource, staff alignment

By 2nd Lt. Jon M. Hart

31st Fighter Wing Manpower and Organization Office

Most people probably think something along the lines of, "Oh no, they are coming to take some of my bodies" or "Great, we are going to lose some resources" when they hear that the manpower office is coming to visit their work center.

This is a stigma that those in the Manpower and Organization career field have been trying to overcome.

They offer many services designed to improve the overall efficiency and effectiveness of organizations or work centers. These services are free and available upon request by any unit commander, section chief, flight commander, shop chief, and others.

Here are some examples of services they can provide to organizations without any risk of losing resources:

- Consultant Study is when a small team of Manpower analysts helps a work center with reorganization, strategic planning, utilization of resources, or any issue which needs to be solved. This is a way to have a third-party make recommendations which often go unseen by someone within the organization.

- Process Improvement Study is similar to a consultant study, but concentrates on a broken or inefficient process.

The Manpower Office leads a team consisting of members from an organization and their own office. They take a hard look at the entire process and make as many improvement recommendations as possible, implemented at the requestor's discretion.

- Variance Requests usually deal with different environmental conditions, technological conditions, or unique work requirements that are unavoidable. If the conditions in which work is performed are unique to the installation, then a variance from the approved Air Force Manpower Standard may be allowable. Although variances are difficult to qualify for, there is only one way to find out and that is to ask. The Manpower Office exists to help every unit utilize their resources in the best manner possible. Whether recommended improvements are made is completely up to the requesting party.

Members seeking more information on these or any other services can contact the 31st Fighter Wing Manpower and Organization Office at Ext. 7308, or visit them on the Aviano Intranet at <https://avo-intranet/Manpower>.

## Hidden Heroes



Name: **Shannon Kokot**  
Position: **Spouse**  
Organization: **31st Security Forces Squadron**

Shannon Kokot enhanced morale by preparing and delivering gifts to airmen in the dorms, on-duty and deployed Security Forces members Christmas Day. Mrs. Kokot spent more than three weeks buying and packaging gifts as well as writing and distributing holiday poems praising the troops' hard work and dedication.



# Darby chief works hard, merits Bronze Star

By 2nd Lt. Lea Ann Chambers

31st Fighter Wing Public Affairs

Chief Master Sgt. Darryl Edwards, 31st Munitions Squadron superintendent, Camp Darby, Italy was presented with the Bronze Star by Brig. Gen. Mike Worden, 31st Fighter Wing commander Dec. 8.

Chief Edwards was awarded the bronze star for meritorious service as the munitions flight chief and munitions accountable systems officer of the 332nd Expeditionary Maintenance Squadron while engaged in ground operations at Al Jaber Air Base, Kuwait from March 2, 2002 to March 15, 2003.

"I was one of 13 permanent-party personnel at Al Jaber responsible for managing munitions for Al Jaber and Bagram Air Base, Afghanistan," said Chief Edwards.

Chief Edwards was commended for his support of Operations Southern Watch, Enduring Freedom and Iraqi Freedom. He was responsible for ensuring 100-percent availability of munitions required to support combat operations in both Iraq and Afghanistan.

"I was working 18-hour days," said Chief Edwards. "Our schedule was 12 hours-a-day, six days-a-week. On our days off we rested and slept."

Chief Edwards oversaw the construction of 27 munitions storage pads, which increased storage space at Al Jaber by over 700 percent. The increase made it possible for over 7,000 precision guided and general purpose munitions to be delivered. He also integrated 400 coalition troops into one force.

"We really were one team, one fight," said Chief Edwards. "There can only be one boss when it comes to combined forces. I got a lot of support from those individuals, which allowed us to accomplish our mission."

As munitions chief in support of Operation Iraqi Freedom, Chief Edwards served as the continuity link between deployments, ensuring munitions support was readily available. This support enabled a rapid transition to execute operations plans.

"The 31st MUNS and Camp Darby are extremely blessed to have Chief Edwards as both a military and community leader. He leads by building and empowering teams and giving credit to others," said Lt. Col Stephen Williams, 31st Munitions Squadron commander. "I've never heard him take credit for anything by saying, 'I did this' - it is always, 'we did this' or 'the troops



Staff Sgt. Kristin Kowalski

Brig. Gen. Michael Worden, 31st Fighter Wing commander, presents the Bronze Star to Chief Master Sgt. Darryl Edwards, 31st Munitions Squadron superintendent, Dec. 8. Chief Edwards received the award for meritorious service at Al Jaber Air Base, Kuwait. He was also commended for his support of operations in Southwest Asia

made it happen.' Our community couldn't have a more positive leadership role model."

Chief Edwards credits the support of his co-workers and his family back home with his performance in the desert.

"It was very challenging and very rewarding," said the Dayton, Ohio native. "I was very impressed with how the leadership supported me, and my wife was always there for me too."

## Airman's Attic gives to community at Aviano, all over world

By 2nd Lt. Lea Ann Chambers

31st Fighter Wing Public Affairs

Wednesdays and Saturdays, staff sergeants and below can browse the shelves and roam the aisles at the Airman's Attic for items they might need for their homes and families.

The attic holds a variety of free items for airmen and their families - from books and electronics, to clothes and furniture.

"Occasionally we have an all ranks day where the attic is open to everyone on base, or if a first sergeant has someone in need they can call and we can arrange for them to come in, regardless of their rank," said Senior Master Sgt. Laurie Newman, 31st Maintenance Squadron and Airman's Attic chairman.

The Attic is manned by volunteers and headed by an executive committee made up of members from Aviano's Top Three. Volunteers sign up to work shifts on

Wednesday nights or during the day on Saturday, and anyone can volunteer. Aviano's Airman's Council recently spent some time at the attic sorting clothing and stocking shelves.

"We volunteered to do it, just to help out and give back to the community since we are the main ones who use it," said Senior Airman Lacey Johnson, 31st Medical Support Squadron. "There is a lot of stuff there. I think it's a valuable resource for Aviano's airmen."

Items that the management has decided not to offer to the military community but are still serviceable, are donated to local missions or other charities such as H.E.A.R.T., and more recently Afghanistan. Items that are deemed suitable for military members are sorted according to departments.

"We are trying to make it easier for the customer to shop," said Sergeant Newman. "We want it to be almost like a

department store."

Donations to the attic are taken during operating hours, but can also be dropped off when arrangements have been made with the executive committee. Aviano members wanting to make these arrangements can call Sergeant Newman, or the point of contact for volunteers that week.

"The Airman's Attic is a huge success story. At times the donations are overwhelming," said Chief Master Sgt. Daniel Gill, 31st Fighter Wing command chief master sergeant. "It's a great effort on the part of team Aviano to take care of its own."

The Airman's Attic is located on the flight line area, next to the Global Federal Credit Union building. It is open 6 to 8 p.m. Wednesdays and 11 a.m. to 2 p.m. Saturdays. Members wanting to volunteer at the attic can call Sergeant Newman at Ext. 7563.





Ken Gooden

## Putting out the flames

Aviano firefighters use one of their trucks in an attempt to put out the fire that broke out in the Burger King in Area One Monday. The firefighters used around 40,000 gallons of water during the fight.

# Fire

Monday afternoon a fire broke out in the Area One Burger King. More than 30 firefighters were recalled to fight the blaze. While the efforts of the 31st Civil Engineer Fire Protection Flight managed to keep the fire from spreading to surrounding buildings they were unable to save Burger King. No injuries from the fire were reported. The damage to the facility is estimated to be \$ 1 million. An investigation is in progress to determine the cause of the fire.



Photos by Airman Scherrie Gates

Above: Airmen Brendon Nickerson and Charles Longsmith, 31st Civil Engineer Squadron Fire Protection Flight, responded to the fire. Below Left: Two firemen break windows to help fight the fire.



POSTCARDS

Look kids its Big Ben, and Parliament.” No this isn’t the Griswolds in London, it’s the Emory family. Over the Thanksgiving weekend, the Emorys took to the skies and rail to visit the city of London.

They flew out of Treviso Airport and into London Stansted. After landing at Stansted, the Emorys took the train for a 40-minute ride to Liverpool station. Their hotel was perfectly located one block from a “Tube” stop.

**Shopping in London.** After checking in, they went shopping on Oxford and Regents Street. All the Christmas decorations were out and lights were lit. They also visited Harrods and Hamleys. Harrods is the world renowned store that takes up a whole city block.

“This is the first store I have been to that I needed a map to find my way around,” said 2nd Lt. Jim Emory, 31st Fighter Wing. Hamleys is a four-story toy store that Andrew, his son, fell in love

with. “The day was not complete until Andrew got to walk around the toy store,” said Lieutenant Emory

**Delighted to ride on the double decker.** Friday the Emorys decided to take the open top double-decker bus tour. The tour wound through the city, stopping at all the major attractions. Their goal was to go to the Tower of London to see the crown jewels.

“The Tower of London is a must see while here. We saw the crown jewels and different types of armaments and suits used in the middle ages,” he said.

Andrew, the Emory’s four-year-old son, loved looking at the suits of armor, and all of the different swords and guns.

**London Tower Bridge not yet falling down.** The Emorys rode across the Tower Bridge during their tour. “It is an amazing site to see this bridge that was built in the 1800s standing so proudly over the River Thames,” stated Lieutenant Emory. The new London Bridge was opened in 1831. The bridge it replaced was transported stone by stone to Lake Havasu, Arizona.

**Meeting famous people made of wax.** On Saturday morning the Emorys went to Madame Tussauds Wax Museum. Here the Emory family stood toe to toe with many celebrities.

“It was unbelievable, standing next to the life-size wax figures, you never realize how big or small the actors really are until coming here,” said Julie Emory, wife of Lieutenant Emory.



2nd Lt. Jim Emory

Tower Bridge has stood over the River Thames in London since 1894 and is one of the most recognisable bridges in the World. At the Tower Bridge Exhibition tourists can enjoy views from the high-level Walkways and learn about the history of the Bridge and how it was built. They can then visit the Victorian Engine Rooms, home to the original steam engines that used to power the Bridge.

Andrew stated this was his favorite part of London. He especially liked the life-size wax of the Incredible Hulk.

**Taking advantage of photo opportunities.** On Saturday afternoon, the Emory family spent the afternoon walking around Big Ben, the Houses of Parliament, Trafalgar Square, and Westminster Abbey. They took pictures of all the sites and were able to reach them all on foot. Those who don’t like to walk can take London’s immense Tube, consisting of 12 lines, it’s usually the quickest and easiest way to get around. Several rail companies now run passenger trains in London, most of which interchange with the tube.

Aviano members can share their travel experiences through *Postcards*. Simply send an email to [vigileer@aviano.af.mil](mailto:vigileer@aviano.af.mil), telling us about where you’ve been, what you did and what you loved about it. To submit a postcard, send a trip photo along with an email describing your trip.

## Information, Tickets, Travel

Upcoming tours from the Information, Tickets and Travel office include:

- Trieste Castle and Cave - Saturday
- Ski trip in Civeta Val Zoldana - Monday
- Beretta Gun Factory - Monday
- Wine Tasting in Friuli, Collio Venica, Colutta winery and Cividale - Jan. 24
- Slovenian Rhapsody, guided tour of Ljubljana - Jan. 31
- Pisa and Vinci - Jan. 31
- Guided Salzburg - Jan. 31
- Special Valentine’s weekend in Budapest - Feb. 14-16

ITT has a payment plan for all overnight tours - 30/30/40 percent.

For more information, call Exts. 5072 or 5026.

### Travel Tip

Before going abroad, learn what medical services health insurance will cover overseas. If health insurance provides coverage outside the United States, remember to carry both insurance policy identity card as proof such insurance and a claim form. Although many health insurance companies will pay “customary and reasonable” hospital costs abroad, very few will pay for medical evacuation back to the United States. Medical evacuation can easily cost \$10,000 and up, depending on location and medical condition.

To facilitate identification in case of an accident, complete the information page on the inside of the passport providing the name, address and telephone number of someone to be contacted in an emergency.



# Weapons Load and Aircraft Appearance Competition



Airman 1st Class Jeante Covington, 31st Aircraft Maintenance Squadron, performs a GYRO check on a Guidance Control Unit.



## Prep school

Senior Airman Lee Crawford, 31st AMXS, preps the AIM-9 launcher prior to loading on the aircraft. The quarterly load competition ensures crew efficiency and squadron competition.



## Taking aim

*Photos by Airman 1st Class Katherine Rodgers*

Airman 1st Class Timothy Harbaugh, Staff Sgt. Thomas White and Airman 1st Class Jeante Covington transport an AIM-9 L/M missile from MHU-141 trailer to load during the Quarterly Weapons Load and Aircraft Appearance Competition Jan. 6 here. The load crew members were Staff Sgt. John Robertson, Airmen 1st Class Lee Crawford and Randi Teague, 510th Fighter Squadron Aircraft Maintenance Unit. Dedicated crew chief winners were Staff Sgt. William Zimmerman and Airman 1st Class Peter Spoels, 555th AMU. The Jammer Ho-Down winner was Airman 1st Class Jason Hall, 555th AMU.